

# ROCK ISLAND HAS MAN OF MYSTERY

### Sets His Clothes on Fire in Police Station Cell and Puffs Cigarette as He Watches Them Burn.

### ATTEMPTS TO COMMIT SUICIDE

### Wearing Only a Hat and a Necktie He Starts Second Blaze in Pen and Resents Interference.

Rock Island has a man of mystery. Here is what the police say he did:

Threatened to commit suicide in a restaurant.

Said he did not know his name or where he is from.

Said he is going to erect an 18-story building in Spencer square.

Removed his clothes in police station cell and set them on fire.

Set a pile of paper on fire in cell later.

In "September Morn" attire tried to beat down concrete wall and steel cell door, lacerating his body and hands but showing no signs of pain.

Said a necktie is all the clothes any man needs.

Late yesterday afternoon a well-dressed man entered the Park cafe on Twentieth street between Second and Third avenues. He appeared to be 35 years old. He engaged in conversation with a waiter, jollied along, then made the startling statement:

"Guess I'll put up an 18-story building over in the park. Think the city will sell it to me?" he asked the waiter.

"Might try," said the man with the apron, becoming alarmed.

He changed the topic of conversation.

"Just bought a guy a dollar and a half meal up the street. Only got a nickel myself. Beats all what a fool a fellow is being a good fellow."

Asks for Chief.

The waiter was silent.

"Say, you, page the chief of police, will you? Guess I'll end it all here. You don't care, do you?" he asked, reaching for a knife which the waiter jerked from him.

"Ain't cha going to let me?" he said, disappointed.

The police were called.

At the station, Desk Sergeant Flanagan asked him his name.

"Don't know. Don't know where I'm from, either. Never had a name in the first place and never had a home. Funny guy, ain't it?"

He was placed in a large cell and police winked at each other. They thought he was drunk.

A half hour later fire was scented. An odor of burning rubber and cloth permeated the air. The sergeant and reserves rushed about the building seeking the origin of the smoke. All finally reached one place, the cell.

The man of mystery was singing campfire songs. He wore nothing but his hat and a bright red necktie. All his other clothes had been removed. He was puffing a cigarette and watching his garments burn. Police turned on a hydrant in the corridor of the cell room and directed a stream of water on his clothes. The man of mystery jumped into the stream and danced gleefully as the water struck his body. When the police turned the water off he was sorry. He became angry when he saw his clothes were no longer burning.

Police took the matches from him and left. A half hour later smoke again was detected coming from the cell room. A pile of paper was burning in the middle of the pen. The man of mystery was watching it.

The hose was again used to extinguish the fire. The pyromaniac became frate when he saw the blaze splutter and then go out. Adding to his anger came the turning off of all lights in the cell. Left in darkness he raved.

Placed in New Cell.

Finally police decided to put him into a concrete cell. In his new quarters he ran the full length of the cell and threw his body violently against the steel doors. He would attack it with his fists at other times, and finally after hours he became exhausted. He lay down, bleeding from a score of cuts.

Authorities of Watertown hospital were called to the station. Police thought perhaps he might have escaped from the state institution, but the officials said they had had never had custody of him.

He talked continuously of botany, astronomy and other sciences and said that a person not well versed in astronomy is a "hooster."

Today he gave a list of names to police. They booked him under the name of William Hirkin, Zanesville, S. D. He was arraigned in police court on a charge of disorderly conduct and the case was continued 10 days. Police plan to investigate into his identity in the meantime and who he is they will have him sent to Watertown.

Miners to Return to Work.

Charlestown, W. Va., April 18.—Preparations were being made today by miners in the Cabin Creek and Coal river districts to return to work following a referendum vote yesterday which resulted in the men ratifying the wage scale made between operators and officials of the mine workers' organization of West Virginia and approving the taking over control of the local union by the United Mineworkers of America.

Village Watchman Slain.

Medina, Ohio, April 18.—John Gates, 60 years old, village night watchman, was murdered here this morning by an unknown assassin and officials are searching for Henry Blakeslee, 48, village marshal and special night watchman in the hope that he can throw some light on the crime.

Blakeslee's uniform with two loaded shotgun shells in the pocket was found in the basement of a clothing store where he changed his clothes each day after finishing his hours on duty. Two similar shells were found on the street near the scene of the shooting.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

# OPEN AN EXHIBIT IN SCHOOL ROOMS

### Observance of Shakespeare Tercentenary Under Auspices of Teachers and Students Begun.

### PRESENT PLAY THURSDAY NIGHT

### Tom Thumb Wedding Is to Be Staged This Evening by Little Folks of the Kemble Building.

The sale of tickets for the "Merchant of Venice," the Shakespearean play to be given April 20 by a cast picked from the English students of the local high school, is now progressing rapidly, and it is urged that those who expect to attend be prompt in reserving their seats. The tickets may be procured from 12:45 to 1:30 and from 3 o'clock to 4:30 at the school by calling Will McCulloch. The prices are 25 and 50 cents.

The Shakespearean exhibit opened this afternoon at 3 o'clock, and it is expected that a large number of visitors will be attracted to the school by it. The exhibit is being held in all of the English rooms of the school and consists of all sorts of pictures and models of the time of Shakespeare. It will continue throughout the week.

The first "Tom Thumb" wedding to be given under the auspices of a public school organization will take place this evening at 8 o'clock when the Parent-Teachers' association of Kemble school will present one in the local high school auditorium. The cast is composed of children of the members of this association and all of them will be under eight years old. The program will consist of an entire mock wedding, and costumes appropriate to each character will be worn, the "men" being furnished with dress suits and the young ladies with suitable dresses.

Cast of Characters.

The cast of characters is as follows:

Bride ..... Elizabeth Soekely

Groom ..... Charles Voegel

Best man ..... Evelyn Walker

Mad minister ..... Jack Volk

Minister ..... Bernard Connelly

Father and mother of bride.....

..... Glen Osborn and Mary Olmsted

Sister of bride ..... Lucille Elliott

Grandfather and grandmother of the bride.....

Henry Silverman and Thelma Craft

Ushers ..... Dick Pollard and Will Stuart

There will also be a large number of pink and blue maids of honor, flower girls, waitresses, old maids, college girls, guests, and bachelors. The playlet is expected to be a complete success and a large attendance is anticipated.

### PUZZLE OVER QUESTION OF MEXICO CASE

(Continued From Page One.)

probable result of the continued hostility. It was intimated, however, that even without this new incident, General Pershing might have thought it necessary to call the department's attention to the situation very fully and to await further instructions. It was thought probable that he would avoid any possibility of further clashes until he was advised as to the wishes of President Wilson.

Pershing Submits Report.

General Pershing's reports on what transpired at Parral have been transmitted to Special Agent Rogers at Mexico City to be communicated to General Carranza as a matter of information. They are at variance with the version communicated to Secretary Lansing by the Mexican embassy here.

In his dispatches General Carranza used the incident to support his argu-

ment for withdrawal of the American troops, adding that his own forces had sought to stop the firing. There is nothing to support that in the American advices beyond the fact that the Mexican military commander personally made such an effort with his men, while his men appear to have been doing most of the shooting.

El Paso, Texas, April 18.—The American punitive expedition into Mexico has virtually come to a halt in its pursuit of Francisco Villa. Dispatches from the front say that only small detachments of cavalry are operating in limited zones out of the army base at Satevo. Mexican officials here still believe that Villa's body has been found, though no confirmation of the report has been received.

Officers of the de facto government call attention to the fact that Villa never has been reported south of San Francisco Borja, where his body is said to have been located and that the American forces are only following a blind trail if they proceed over the Durango-Chihuahua line.

If Villa's body has been found, it should reach Culhuahua sometime within the next 48 hours.

There have been no further reports of clashes between the American troops and civilians since the Parral affair and dispatches to General Gaviira, military commander at Juarez, state that the Carranza officials have the situation well in hand. Reports to mining interests here state the typhus epidemic has spread rapidly in the Durango district.

Recalls Advance Attachments.

Reports were received here today from Mexican sources that the American advance detachments had been recalled by General Pershing and that the expeditionary force was being concentrated in three places, a strong detachment being encamped near Satevo, the main column near Namiquipa and a third division at Colonia Dublin. These reports also stated that the Parral fighting had had a most unfortunate effect on the people of northern Mexico and had greatly inflamed the anti-American feeling. The Parral incident, it was said, had been manifested by anti-American and anti-Carranza agitators into a great battle in which the Americans were badly beaten. The Mexican dead were accounted for as unnamed citizens who had been killed by the Americans before the Parral garrison could interfere.

Excitement Increases.

The excitement of the people had very much increased, according to the same reports, by their knowledge that Villa dead or alive had never gone as far south as Parral and their consequent inability to understand why the American cavalrymen were in that district except on the assumption that they were really invading Mexico.

The misery of the people, ravaged by disease and facing starvation, is making it more difficult than ever for the authorities to keep them in control, it is said. They have been taught so long to regard the Americans as their bitter enemies and the cause of most of their woes that it is an easy matter for the agitators to rouse them against the United States soldiers.

Rumor Still Unconfirmed.

The failure of the Mexican officials here and in Juarez to obtain any confirmation in two days of the reported discovery of the body of Villa has almost extinguished hopes here of the report being true. While neither Consul Garcia nor General Gaviira are willing to abandon hope other Mexican well informed have gone over to the pessimists.

TAYLOR RIDGE.

Miss Hattie Carothers spent last week with Mrs. Will Mack.

Miss Rachel Johnston has returned to her home after spending the past few weeks with Mrs. Elizabeth Schnetzlers.

Julia Hintermeister of Preemption spent Saturday at home.

Mrs. Henry Jackson and son Eugene spent Tuesday at the home of James Miller.

The Ladies' Aid society held its monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Anna Hintermeister Thursday afternoon.

Miss Miriam Dunlap is recovering from an operation performed on her throat Saturday.

Mrs. E. Collins and daughter Mildred of Muscatine, spent the past week at the home of Mrs. Elmer Patterson.

John Flaherty and family spent Sunday with Charles Bognars of Blue Grass, Iowa.

Marilyn Hayes of Muscatine spent the past week with his father, J. C. Hayes.

Mrs. John Hintermeister and son Samuel are visiting at the home of the former's mother Mrs. Mary Goods of Andalusia.

Little Margaret Carothers is spending the week with the Misses Bess and Grace Westphal.

REYNOLDS

A large number from here attended the funeral of William Riddell in Aledo Thursday.

Mrs. Frank Clark is home from a Moline hospital where she recovered nicely from a recent operation.

Mrs. Harry Millett visited with her daughter, Mrs. Morse, west of the village, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gauley and Miss Mary Johnston arrived here from California Wednesday.

Sam Vickers was an Aledo caller Thursday.

The senior class of the Rock Island high school is going to put on a play, "Contra Mary," at the opera house a week from Saturday night and it is hoped they will have a large attendance.

Miss Ruby Bridgford is suffering from an attack of the measles.

Miss Emma Haskell entertained a large number of friends at her home Saturday.

John Hartman, John Nichols, A. N.

# Easter apparel displays, presenting the very newest modes sanctioned by the fashions of the moment

We're prepared for the Easter rush with apparel designed for the smart dressers—offering the modes of the moment in the newest weaves, fabrics and colorings—in variety and originality of design, the Easter coat, suit and dress displays go beyond the bounds of description.

No Charge for Alterations

FAMOUS FOR COATS AND SUITS

# Lundt & Co

THE BIG STORE ON THE BROADWALK

No Charge for Alterations

We Alter Garments Free

## It is now time to decide definitely on just what you will wear in the Easter parade—to assist you in your quandary we've prepared a wardrobe accessory guide for you

### Most extensive assortments of Easter hosiery await your selection, especially the colors to match shoes

Particularly featuring grays, light tans, ivory, bronze, dark tans, black and white, plain colors and combinations in splendid value silk hosiery.

Every Shade \$1.00 Every Size

Hosiery Center Aisle

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| <b>Fibre Boot Silk Hose</b><br><b>25c pr.</b><br>Rich new combinations of colorings in high grade fiber silk hose, double toes with high apliced heels in every size. | <b>Fine Quality Fibre Hose</b><br><b>39c pr.</b><br>Excellent quality silk fiber hose, plain colors and two color effects, the wanted shades to match the new Easter shoes. | <b>Full Fashion'd Silk Hosiery</b><br><b>69c pr.</b><br>Full fashioned real silk hosiery for women— all first quality, double soles, toes and high apliced heels, the wanted colors. | <b>Men's Fibre Silk Socks</b><br><b>25c pr.</b><br>Men's fiber silk socks, all the new plain colors and fancies, double toes, reinforced heels and soles, every size, 9 1/2 up to 11 1/2. |
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## Ribbons for every purpose—millinery ribbons—ribbons for sashes and hair bows—ribbons of satin and taffeta

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| <b>Fine Organdie Collars</b><br><b>25c</b><br>Fancy organdie collars, all the newest effects including the much wanted large cape styles. | <b>Georgette and Chiffon Coll's</b><br><b>50c</b><br>Embroidered Georgette and fine silk crepe de chine collars, the newest shapes in the most desirable colors. | <b>Crepe-Bou-doir Caps</b><br><b>50c</b><br>Fancy crepe de chine and chiffon boudoir caps, entirely new and novel effects— neatly trimmed in fine laces. |
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**The New Moire Ribbons.**  
All Colors **29c yd.**  
Extra wide, heavy quality moire ribbons—now being used very extensively for hat trimmings.

**Fancy Flowered Ribbons.**  
For Bows and Sashes **25c yd.**  
Fancy floral ribbons, rich color combinations, heavy quality silk in extra widths, desirable for hats, sashes and bows.

## New handbags for Easter—collections disclosing the very newest and most appropriate handbags to accompany the Easter mode

A truly wonderful selection of bags, worth to 2.50

New Shapes **\$1.00** New Colors

Leather hand bags of pin seal, black and colors, also the newest shapes in the stylish black and white combination, lined and fitted.

## New blouses for Easter—every charming mode at its best—filmy of material—and radiantly new of color

No blouses of a former Easter-tide never so fascinating

**New Easter Blouses \$2.50 and \$2.98**

Several hundred fancy tub silk blouses, the new plain shades and the wide fancy stripes—modes that are new and different.

**Blouses of Crepe & Lace \$4.50 and \$5.98**

Noteworthy are these stunning new creations of crepe de chine and lace nets—in white, flesh and the new high colors in demand.

Women's and Misses' Easter Gloves at the Height of the Mode—Variety of Selections Unequaled in Moline

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| <b>French Kid Gloves</b><br><b>\$1.25, \$1.75</b><br>High grade imported French kid gloves reinforced seams, plain and embroidered backs, all shades and sizes. | <b>Wrist Length Silk Gloves</b><br><b>50c, \$1.25</b><br>Wrist length silk gloves—all the newest shades, plain and fancy stitched backs—contrasting color combinations. | <b>Fancy Ruffled Top Gloves</b><br><b>\$1.00, \$1.25</b><br>Short silk gloves, entirely new with fancy ruffled tops—backs embroidered with fancy colors, double finger tips. | <b>Fancy Stitched Chamousette Gloves</b><br><b>50c, 75c</b><br>Fancystitched backs, chamousette gloves—the wanted shades in a complete range of sizes— guaranteed washable. |
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Phillips, Emerson Crabs, Will Butcher, Jesse Cooper, E. M. Bateman, Percy and Charles Crabs, Robert Millett, A. C. Haaxter, Harry Fetters, Kalona Davis, Andrew Anderson and Fred Anderson attended Odd Fellows' lodge in Moline Monday night.

Bennie Bacon is suffering from a broken rib.

John Dings was in Aledo Thursday. Verde Miller of Rock Island called on friends here Wednesday.

Ship Owner Dead.

Glasgow, Scotland, April 18, (11:52 a. m.)—James A. Allen, formerly one of the chief partners of the Atlas steamship line, died last night.

## Home Comers

ATTENTION OF SUBSCRIBERS— If you know of any former resident of this city or county now living elsewhere, outside of a radius of 50 miles of Rock Island, and will send the name and address of each former resident to The Argus, a copy of this paper will be sent gratis to the name and address given, daily from May 15 to July 1.

This proposition is made in order to afford the most extended opportunity for the widest and fullest cooperation in making the Fort Armstrong Celebration and Tri-City Home Coming to be held in the tri-cities June 15th to 24th inclusive, a happy as well as a wonderful historical event, and if you will send in the names of your friends you will not only secure for them a copy of a daily paper from the home town for the period mentioned, but will be likewise contributing to the making of the celebration the most successful event ever held in the Mississippi valley.

Address Home Coming Committee, Fort Armstrong Centennial Celebration, care of The Rock Island Argus.

# ELECTRICITY Masters the Mountain Barriers

One of the most stupendous obstacles of western railroading has been the mountains. To lift the tremendous tonnage of the transcontinental trains over the mile-in-air crests of the continent is a herculean task under the most favorable conditions. And when snow fills the passes and cold beleaguers the fire boxes of the steam locomotive, the difficulties of mountain operation become well-nigh insuperable.

Remarkable, therefore, was the recent record of one of "The Milwaukee's" new Electric Locomotives pulling the all-steel "Olympian" over the Rockies—receiving the train at Deer Lodge, Montana, forty-five minutes late, and having to traverse the mile-high pass of the Great Continental Divide in the dead of winter, it made up the lost time in a run of 115 miles, and arrived Three Forks, Montana, on scheduled time.

This astounding record shows that the Electric Locomotive has proved itself "Master of the Mountain Barriers." Fed with the tremendous energy of the mountain streams—making an ally of the cold weather, which aids in keeping the motors cool—it penetrates the snow drifts with comparative ease—hauls heavier loads with greater dispatch, and with a pronounced saving in cost, and makes mountain travel clean and mountain views clear.

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